

# POLISH NEWS

Vol. I.

Bombay, 15th September 1942

No. 49

*During the last years the heroic and determined manner in which the Polish people have struggled and sacrificed in the face of tremendous hardships and deprivation has been an inspiration not only to the people of the United States but to liberty-loving people everywhere.*

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT,  
JULY 5, 1941.

## THREE YEARS OF WAR

Three years have elapsed since the tragic September campaign when Poland was forced to fight for her life against the German invaders. Bitter was the taste of defeat when so many Poles had to leave their beloved country, subdued by the German foe, and set out on the wearisome path of exile, grieved, of course, but still determined to serve Poland by carrying on the war until complete victory would be gained. Time has had its effect, and so have later events. We are now in a position to compare the Polish defeat with the rapid collapse of France, and the heroic Polish resistance with the defence of Yugoslavia, Greece, or Russia.

Poland was the first country to oppose the onslaught of the formidable German war machines. The result of that unequal struggle could never be in doubt; it was decided both by superior numbers and particularly by the crushing superiority of the German mechanical equipment. Whilst a German division was equipped with 106 guns, a Polish division had not more than 48. The German army had eight times as many tanks, and ten times as many aeroplanes. Moreover, Poland's strategic position was as bad as possible, and consequently there was not one single square foot of land but was reached by the German bombers. During this campaign the Poles succeeded in killing 91,000 and wounding 150,000 German soldiers; besides, they shot down about 800 German planes, despite the small size of their own air-force and anti-aircraft artillery. Furthermore, they damaged about the same number of German planes in action, and destroyed, or severely damaged, nearly one third of the whole German force of tanks and armoured cars. These huge German losses in tanks and aeroplanes caused no less than eight months' delay before Hitler could replace his losses and launch an attack in the west, and thus the Western Powers gained valuable time.

Within a few days after hostilities had ceased in Poland, Hitler offered peace to Great Britain since "the object of the strife had been liquidated." These proposals were rejected by the British Government. When France capitulated General Sikorski asked Winston Churchill: "Will you continue the struggle?" The great British statesman replied with a sentence that will pass into history, and will for ever inspire the Polish Army with pride: "With you—always." Thus the Polish soldier continued to fight the German foe even outside his native country.

### THE POLISH ARMY

"The heroic Polish Army" was acclaimed by the British Admiralty in July for its "undiminished gallantry and determination"—"an example and an inspiration to us all." On the collapse of France, the troops still refused even to consider the question of capitulation. In the east General Kopanski led his men from Syria to Palestine in order to join General Sir Archibald Wavell; in the Libyan fighting, there are Poles serving in the Imperial, indeed International, army that has captured Sidi Barrani, Bardia, and Tobruk. "We shall continue to fight shoulder to shoulder with the powerful British Empire," said General Sikorski as he gave orders to his troops.

The Polish Army in France had numbered about 70,000 men. Of these some were killed battling near the Maginot Line, others bravely stemming off German units in order to protect retreating French troops in eastern France; still others were forced back into Switzerland. Yet thousands succeeded, by grim determination and a kind of joyous resiliency, in getting to Britain. From Lyons came 5,000 picked men "in excellent spirits and eager to resume fighting." Typical is the odyssey of a unit which found itself near

Rennes in Brittany under French orders to cease firing. They would have been fully justified in accepting these orders, for all means of motor transport were taken from them; but they determined not to be captured. Retreating to Redon, they succeeded in obtaining some lorries, dashed to St. Nazaire, reached that port just after the last British ship had departed. They then proceeded to swim the Loire estuary, found the French authorities reluctant to assist them, but again managed to secure some lorries through the help of a French farmer, an ex-service man. On they went to La Rochelle; from there to near Bordeaux. There they decided to disperse and after various adventures numbers of them eventually were successful in gaining the English shore.

The Polish Carpathian Brigade was sent to **Norway** at the beginning of 1940, and conquered Narvik, together with other allied troops.

Tens of thousands of Polish soldiers are now being trained in **Canada** for their future task of taking an active part in the struggle against the Axis Powers and in the creation of a second front. Moreover, a huge Polish army is being formed in the **Middle East**. To-day it is no longer a secret that the number of Polish troops who have come from **Russia** and are now concentrated somewhere in the Near East, will soon amount to 125,000 men. If one considers the growing importance of the Palestine-Iraq-Iran front, it is not difficult to realize the vital part which those Polish forces may one day play in the common struggle.

But Poles are fighting not only in the Near East. Even in **China** there are already Polish detachments fighting together with Marshal Chiang Kai Shek's army. According to the latest news, more and more Poles escape from the Japanese occupied territories to join the Chinese forces. Last but not least, we must not forget those numerous Poles who have joined the **British, American and Free French** armies—in short, Poles are to be found fighting wherever there is an opportunity.

#### THE POLISH NAVY

When Germany swept into Polish territory, seized Danzig and bore down on Gdynia, **three destroyers—the Grom, Burza, and Blyskawica, and two submarines, the Orzel and Wilk, succeeded in escaping.** Among the many exploits of Polish seamen, those of the crew of the Orzel will bear retelling, for their audacity and daring must ever remain a classic epic of the sea.

Just as the Germans were about to seize Gdynia, the Orzel slipped out of harbour, cruised 15 days seeking a chance to attack German warships, then

entered the Estonian port of Tallinn to put her sick captain ashore. The Estonians determined to intern her, rendered her guns useless, took away her charts, and set guards on board. The Orzel's voyage seemed done.

Led by Lt.-Commander Grudzinski, however, the crew overpowered the guards, took their ship out of port and 44 days after they had left Gdynia, succeeded in reaching British shores. During that time their escapades were innumerable; they lay for hours on the bottom of the ocean; they struck rocks and grounded on shoals—for their only chart was a chance-found list of Baltic lighthouses and a blank piece of graph-paper—they ran out of water; the signal picked up by a British operator was sent out with the last gasp of their wireless. Hardly could a more amazing record of ingenuity and endurance be found in the annals of the sea.

Hardly less important has been the service of the **Polish mercantile marine**. Thirty-six vessels totalling 120,000 tons, have been put at the disposal of the Allies. Including passenger liners, cargo vessels, tramps, colliers, and refrigerating vessels, these ships during the first six months of the war carried to Britain cargoes amounting to half a million tons, besides taking part in the transportation of troops to various war fronts.

The Polish Navy steadily reminds the enemy of its existence. The exploits of Polish warships are too numerous to be related here; suffice it to mention the gallant part played by the Kujawiak in the **destruction of the "Bismarck."**

Thanks to the generous help of Great Britain and the U.S.A., the Polish Navy is to-day **stronger** than it ever was before, and will continue to chase the enemy relentlessly until victory is won.

#### THE POLISH AIR FORCE

"We are proud," said General Sikorski in October, 1940, "that Polish squadrons are defending London, that they are participating in British expeditions on the Continent."

The achievements of these pilots have been remarkable. From November 1939 the Polish airmen have been coming to Britain, and now many units are on active duty. Within a few weeks after the start of the air attack on Britain in September, 1940, one Polish squadron alone—the 303rd—had brought down over 125 Nazi planes. Four pilots of this squadron, responsible for destroying 44 out of the 100, were awarded the British Distinguished Flying Cross.



The Polish bomber squadrons played a very prominent part in the **Battle of Britain**, destroying no less than 14% of all the German planes shot down during that momentous fight. The Polish squadrons played also a noble part in the **crippling of the "Prince Eugen"**

Poland's "avenging eagles" have long since passed to the offensive. 2876 Polish bombers took part in bombing operations over Germany and the occupied countries. The Poles participated recently in the bombings of the Ruhr, Lubeck, Rostock and numerous other targets.

The Polish Air-force has hitherto destroyed about 500 Nazi planes for certain, 110 probably, and damaged 124 more. The Polish "Kosciuszko" squadron alone has hitherto destroyed 175 German planes, and thus ranks as the **second best squadron of the R.A.F.**

#### THE HOME FRONT

However, Poland's contribution to the common war effort is by no means confined to the things just mentioned. Apart from all that, there is something else, something perhaps still more important—Poland's home front. For inside occupied Poland a grim struggle is going on, in spite of the cruel repressive measures taken by the enemy. **HEROIC POLAND HAS NOT PRODUCED ONE SINGLE QUISLING, DESPITE ALL THE THREATS AND TERROR OF THE GERMANS. AMONG 35 MILLION MEN AND WOMEN—BEATEN, DOWN TRODDEN AND HUMILIATED—NOT ONE "COLLABORATIONIST," NOT ONE TRAITOR COULD BE FOUND.**

But this is only the negative side of the home front. There is also a positive one: **guerilla warfare, continuous acts of sabotage, etc., etc.** The German Press frequently contains reports about such actions in Poland: people are convicted for derauling trains, blowing up bridges, throwing bombs at German buildings, etc. The same Press also often mentions examples of guerilla warfare in which German soldiers, policemen, and even members of the dreaded Gestapo are attacked and killed.

Over 100,000 civilians have hitherto been **executed** at the order of German courts-martial, and 200,000 more have been **massacred or tortured to death in concentration camps**. About 1,200,000 Poles have been **dragged from their homes and carried off to Germany to do forced labour there**. According to reliable sources, such Polish labourers were sold to German farmers for ten shillings per

head—exactly like slaves or cattle. Hundreds of thousands of Polish Jews have been locked up in ghettos where they are doomed to slow starvation. But notwithstanding all these horrors and atrocities, the struggle is going on—mercilessly, inexorably. Not even the Germans are strong enough to suppress the Polish spirit of freedom, 50 secret newspapers are published in Warsaw alone under the noses of the German oppressors.

The great value of this underground struggle on the home front for the allies cause is obvious if one realizes that the Germans are compelled to **maintain a minimum force of 12 divisions in Poland in order to keep down the starved and tortured population.**

Poland has not been erased from the list of free nations. Thanks to the heroism of the Polish nation and her armed Forces, the legally established Polish Government has been able to work steadily towards its supreme goal: to restore Poland to independence and to the place that is hers under the sun.

The bold initiative taken by the Polish Government, looking to the establishment of an Eastern European Federation, the first practical steps taken in **Polish Czechoslovak Collaboration**—met with cordial approval in both countries as well as in other freedom loving nations. These plans are gradually taking shape.

The **Joint Declaration** signed in New York at the International Labour Conference by the representatives of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Greece was a further step in the same direction.

On the July 30, 1941 an agreement was signed **between Poland and Russia**. This agreement established a solid foundation for an entirely new evolution of Russo-Polish relations. It is an achievement of outstanding importance. After the conclusion of this agreement Stalin knowing that a strong Polish State is indispensable for the maintenance of a permanent peace in Europe, said that Poland would be stronger and greater than ever before.

Looking at the past Poland can be proud of what she has done for the common cause during the past three years. Poland looks with confidence forwards into the future.

Everywhere: at home and abroad, the field of battle, in the councils of war, in the sphere of diplomacy, wherever the world's future is being shaped, Poland is present in a place of honour.

Poland has not "ceased to exist."



## NEWS FROM AND ABOUT POLAND

### "FOURTH WINTER OF WAR" LIKELY GENERAL SIKORSKI'S VIEW

"The entry of the United States into the war has automatically decided its final result," declared the Polish Prime Minister, General Sikorski, reviewing the war position on the third anniversary of Germany's attack on Poland. "The war," he continued, "will not end in 1942, as some believe, but will be protracted through a fourth winter."

"The present period and the beginning of 1943 will rather be a period of gradual exhaustion for the enemy, **weakening him both morally and physically**, preparing the way for the final triumph by increasing the concentrating forces of the anti-German coalition for decisive blows."

Dealing with Germany's losses, General Sikorski said, "Hitler has paid dearly for his conquests in the blood of the German youth. The German losses since the outbreak of the war amount to 1,500,000 dead."

### LORD VANSITTART ON NAZI BRUTALITY IN POLAND

Never in history were terror and oppression so well organised on such a scale of cruelty as in Poland, declared Lord Vansittart, on the third anniversary of the invasion of Poland by Germany. "What she has suffered" continued Lord Vansittart, "all Europe has suffered at German hands. But for the sea they would have done the same thing to us. They have not changed, and if they once got a hold here, we should suffer even worse horrors than the Poles. Our responsibilities in this matter are concerned not with revenge but with achieving a peace which will secure humanity from further outrage."

### GEN. SIKORSKI ON WAR SITUATION

Germany is banking on a compromised peace which she will probably propose this autumn after the expected successes in Russia and before the fourth winter of the war—that is most dangerous for Europe—said the Polish Premier, General Sikorski in August 1942. "These proposals will be categorically rejected by the Allies. Such a compromised peace could only be imposed if Germany were to win a hundred per cent victory and she is incapable of it."

At a session of the Polish National Council to celebrate the Polish Soldiers Day, he said that the Poles with over a 100,000 men in the armed forces now had *the fifth strongest of the Allied arms*. The Polish Air Force, now twice as strong as it was

before the war, had dropped more than eight million pounds of bombs on German targets.

Evacuation of the whole of the Polish forces from Russia now in progress made it possible to bring together all Polish forces in the Middle East in one strong army group organized into motorised and armoured units with an important role to fulfil. Difficulties in Russia existed only on a limited though important front and not on the eastern front as last year.

### POLISH BROADCASTS FROM JERUSALEM

The first Polish broadcast was made over the Jerusalem Radio on May 27th. These broadcasts are intended for the Polish Forces, daily growing stronger in the Middle East and in Palestine, where they are becoming one of the most important units in the armed forces of the United Nations. Jerusalem will broadcast in Polish every day from ten to ten-thirty, London time, wave length 449.1 meters. Polish broadcasts from Jerusalem, Beyruth and shortly from Teheran will create a Polish broadcasting system in the Middle East belonging to the Polish Ministry of Information in London. These Polish broadcasts have been heartily approved of by the English, Arab and Hebrew papers published in Jerusalem.

### NAZIS CONSCRIPT ALL POLES FOR SLAVE LABOR

The German shortage of man-power is assuming critical proportions and the Nazi authorities are trying to do everything in their power to avert or delay the threatening crisis. All European countries occupied by Germany are being used as reservoirs for the purpose of meeting demands brought about by the shortage of German man-power.

In Poland the Germans have already recruited more than a million labourers and sent them to forced labour in the Reich. Even that does not seem enough and the Germans have now introduced a new method to force more Poles into the slave-labour battalions.

Under a new order issued, the German authorities in Poland have decreed that all the non-German male population from eighteen to sixty in the Government General, with the exception of Jews and Gypsies, are to be conscripted for "Reconstruction Services" in the so-called "*Baudienst*."

"Reconstruction" tasks of the "*Baudienst*" according to the terms of the decree, are whatever the chief of the "*Baudienst*," to be nominated by Governor-General Frank, chooses to order. He



will also fix terms of services and call up the various age groups, according to the immediate needs of the German authorities. Military discipline will be in force in the "*Baudienst*" battalions. In fact the "*Baudienst*" call-up is nothing less than camouflaged military conscription of the entire Polish male population.

This latest German move is another flagrant violation of the International Convention Concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land—the IVth Hague Convention of 1907, which forbids the conscription of the population of any occupied country to assist the occupying power at war. The publication of the decree has aroused the strongest resistance among all classes of Poles and caused a new wave of Polish anti-German sabotage.

#### PLANS TO DEPORT WARSAW JEWS

The Mayor of the notorious Jewish Ghetto in Warsaw, M. L. M. Czerniakov, has committed suicide with the poison that he always carried with him. He took it because the German authorities, deciding that the Ghetto was "overcrowded"—

there are over half a million Jews within its walls—announced that at least 100,000 would be deported to an unknown destination in the east." This was believed to be somewhere in occupied Russian territory. Czerniakov knew that they would most probably be massacred. He was ordered personally to prepare and submit a list of those to be deported at the rate of 7,000 daily.

Czerniakov was Deputy Chairman of the Warsaw Jewish Board of Deputies before the German invasion. When the Germans entered he acted as the Chairman of the Jewish Board of Deputies and tried to protect the rights of his people. A year ago the Germans appointed him the first Jewish Mayor of the Ghetto. Under the control of Gestapo officials who visit it daily the Ghetto is run entirely by Jews, who have their own town council and police.

Mass expulsion of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto began in July. When the new exodus began many Jews committed suicide in despair. Many cases of shooting in the Ghetto streets have also been reported.

### NEWS FROM WARSAW

We have recently received much news from Warsaw. Of particular importance among the documents which reached us are some copies of illegal papers, most of them dated from January, 1942. They reflect the life of Poland's capital, its currents, its tragedies, great and small, and, above all, its hopes. They provide us with a wealth of material which helps us to understand the general situation in the conquered country.

War and the siege have destroyed a large part of Warsaw. The most beautiful buildings lie in ruins, thousands of people have been killed, monuments of history and art were demolished. The Nazi policy of terror and destruction systematically attempts to divest Warsaw of its role of leadership in the life and history of Poland.

The capital of the General Government has been moved to Cracow. All scientific institutions of Warsaw have been closed, all centres of independent life are persecuted and condemned to annihilation. Warsaw has been made to serve as a pattern for the Nazi New Order with regard to the treatment of Jews. Thousands of people from the incorporated areas have been sent to Warsaw, until the former capital has been transformed into a vast agglomeration of deported, dispossessed, and destitute human beings from all over Poland. Despite the war losses, the population of Warsaw has risen to over 1,400,000, living under conditions of starvation and utter wretchedness.

But Warsaw still remains the centre of Poland's resistance. The century-old traditions of struggle for independence and progress are still alive among the people, strengthened yet further by the memory of the recent heroic defence of the city in September, 1939. The spirit of Warsaw is unbroken.

The reports which we reprint in this issue give the authentic story of how the people live in Warsaw. They provide an accurate picture of the fate which human-beings suffer under the yoke of Hitlerite Germany.

#### THE THIRD WAR WINTER IN WARSAW COLD AND DARKNESS

This is Warsaw's third war winter. The first one brought untold suffering. The windows of the buildings, which had been shattered during the bombardments, were boarded up for lack of glass. Dwellings were not heated, and it was necessary to wear coats at home. In writing a letter, one had to wear gloves, or the fingers would freeze. To-day the glass has been replaced in the windows, but it is still as cold as it was two years ago. And it is far more difficult to obtain gloves. Letters can be written only by daylight; at 5 p.m. every day the gas main is closed and electric current shut off. The electricity, by the way, is often shut off without warning at various times of the day. Warsaw has been promised a steady supply of electric power from the hydro-electric works of the Poprad and the Dunajec, but the fulfilment of that promise is still uncertain.



### HUNGER AND THE STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE

Warsaw has lost all traces of gaiety. It sees long trains constantly carrying wounded soldiers. It brings flowers to the graves of its defenders of September, 1939. It worries about its daily bread. The struggle to maintain existence has become ever more difficult: a place to sleep and a plate of hot soup are among the most important problems. Food is more and more difficult to procure.

The surrounding countryside has been plundered by the invaders and is unable to supply the capital with adequate quantities of foodstuffs. Concern for the future is the chief topic in the conversations of Warsaw inhabitants. And yet, like the true children of the formerly gay city, they retain their spirits and their cheer.

Without going into details about the food situation in the General Government and in Warsaw, it may be summarized in a word—it is growing worse daily. Polish welfare organizations face increasing difficulties. This winter they were not even able to obtain potatoes, which are the basic item of the average diet in the General Government. The situation with regard to clothing is also becoming more and more difficult: in January, 1941, Warsaw was allotted 39,000 pairs of shoes; in September, 1941, it received only 18,000 pairs, 4,000 of them with wooden soles.

### EPIDEMICS AND MORTALITY

The catastrophic food situation in Warsaw and in the rest of occupied Poland is causing a constant deterioration of health and a growing mortality. 2,160 Gentiles died in Warsaw in September, 1941, as compared with 800 in September, 1938. While in September, 1938, there were only 306 deaths among the Warsaw Jews, in September, 1941, 7,000 Jews died in Warsaw. Children are especially susceptible to typhus and to other diseases, due to malnutrition. The Germans make no attempt to improve the situation.

### SCARCITY AND REPRESSION

The prices of foodstuffs in the black market are so high that the great masses of the population cannot afford to buy. Restaurants are also inaccessible, for Germans severely punish their proprietors and all middlemen who illegally attempt to convey contraband food from the black market to restaurants and to consumers. Despite these repressions, the population continually seeks new channels for procuring food.

### GERMAN SOLDIERS

The food situation is particularly aggravated by the fact that many divisions of the German Army

recalled from the Eastern Front, are stationed in the General Government. The German soldiers are greedy for food after the discomforts and hunger of the Russian Front.

Military discipline among the German soldiers has deteriorated visibly. Drunken soldiers may often be seen in the streets. Warsaw is constantly patrolled by the German Military Police on the look-out for soldiers who have violated army discipline. The German soldiers' uniform and equipment are definitely inferior to what they were in the past; the same is true of their morale.

### HELL ON EARTH

#### IMPRESSIONS OF THE WARSAW GHETTO

There are more than 600,000 Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto. The Ghetto covers the northern part of the city and some of its centre. It is so situated that the centre of the city from the workers' districts, which lie mainly in the western and northern suburbs.

The streets of the Ghetto are indescribably crowded and noisy. There is not enough room for all the people who want to be out in the streets. The area of the Ghetto is extremely small, and the authorities of occupation are constantly reducing it further.

There are no taxi-cabs or horse-driven carriages in the Ghetto streets; they have been replaced by "rickshaws," or man-driven cabs. The horse-driven street-car has been revived in the Ghetto: there are twenty-five of them along the main streets. The few electric street-cars still operating in the Ghetto have no numbers to indicate their routes, but are marked by a blue Star of David.

The Ghetto is surrounded by high walls. Beggars with ulcerated feet, ragged children with old men's faces sit near these walls.

### TRADE IN DRINKING WATER

Trade is conducted on the street corners. Vegetables, scrap-iron, books, Jewish armbands showing a blue Star of David are bought and sold. There is a great trade in drinking water: one glass of fresh water costs 18 grosz. The water is sold by water-carriers who walk along the streets with buckets of fresh water. When a military car passes, all in the crowd silently remove their hats.

The Ghetto contains synagogues and elementary schools, as well as hospitals and baths. There are also restaurants, dance-halls, and cabarets, photographs of which frequently appear in Nazi periodicals as proof of how well the Polish Jews live in the

ghettoes. There is even a Jewish theatre. But there is not a single park, not a single playground, not a single sports field.

The prevailing elements in Ghetto life are misery and hunger. Every parcel arriving from abroad saves people from actual starvation. The Jewish physicians, who were compelled to move into the Ghetto, are overwhelmed with work. Hundreds of people die daily from exposure and hunger. Even the sacredness of death is lost in the Ghetto. A funeral must be paid for, and few families possess the means. Misery overcomes piety, and the dead are simply put out into the streets at night. Later Jewish police carry away the corpses to be buried free of cost by the Jewish community.

The poverty in the Ghetto is appalling. The Germans boast of permitting the Ghetto to be ruled by "its own Jewish administration." In reality the functions of this administration are limited to merely paying for the food supplied to the Ghetto. The Germans mockingly explain to inquisitive foreigners that the only reason for the prevalence of hunger in the Ghetto is the failure of the Jewish community to buy sufficient quantities of food.

## UNDERGROUND

### THE "MIRACLE OF LIFE"

*Extract from one of the secret Polish papers published in Poland.*

"The Miracle of Life"—such words are to be read on hundreds of posters in German-occupied Warsaw. They are meant to be an advertisement for an exhibition of German hygiene. "The State"—the text runs—"has allied itself to science for the protection of life. The care to protect life will always occupy the first place in the interests of the State. Life is a sacred thing, a priceless treasure."

There is a long queue in front of a bakery—women only. Aeroplanes are circling high up in the air. A terrific explosion, and the house next to the baker's crashes down. One of the planes comes down—lower and lower. The whole queue is strafed by machine-gun fire. (Warsaw, September, 1939.)

Christmas night. People are dragged out of their beds. 109 are shot at dawn. (Wawer near Warsaw, 1939.)

A village under heavy artillery fire. The German military police "restores order"—there had been guerilla fighters here. All the male inhabitants of the village are thrust into a big pit, and then finished off with grenades. (Holy Cross Mountains, Poland, 1940.)

Recently, our informant tells us, he received word from Warsaw that it is no longer possible for sick people in the Ghetto to obtain treatment. Although the German censor erased part of this letter, he did not do it thoroughly enough, and it was possible to decipher it. The letter was written in German; the sentence, "Wir sind gesund einstweilen" ("for the time being we are well"), was followed by some erased words, then the word "Fleckfieber" (typhus) appears. The rest of the paragraph reads as follows: "...impfen kann man sich nicht, da man die betreffenden Ampullen nicht bekommen kann" ("it is impossible to be inoculated because the necessary serum cannot be obtained"). This letter plainly reveals that there is a typhus epidemic in the Ghetto, and that there are no means to prevent its spread.

Such is the life of the Polish Jews within the walls of the Warsaw Ghetto. The walls are ten feet high and have ten gates. At 9 p.m. these gates close. It is the curfew hour. The streets are silent and dark. Only the graveyards are growing where the numberless, nameless dead receive burial. Life in the Ghetto is a veritable hell on earth.

"Unproductive people"—under this motto the patients of eleven lunatic asylums in Poland were put to death. Under the same motto, people are regularly killed in Germany.

A quarry. Several hundred weary figures are standing in muddy water up to their waists. A supervisor is watching them with a whip in his hand. (Mathausen.)

Across the street stretches a high wall. In front of it is a policeman and a gendarme. That is the Ghetto. On the curbstone, the corpse of a woman. Beside the body, a man sells cakes. The streets are filthy, covered with refuse. On the doorposts long lists of the tenants of the house. Fourteen persons in one room—that is the average. In almost every house there is typhoid fever. In 1937, there were 162 deaths from typhoid in the whole city; now there are thousands every month. (Warsaw.)

A small grove at dawn. Men and women are digging a pit. Now they are ranged in a long row. A volley. The pit is filled with lime. (Lomianki.)

Man needs about 2,500 calories every day if he is to live normally. The food Jews in Warsaw get contains 184 calories per day.



"The Miracle of Life" on hundreds of posters throughout Warsaw . . . Life—a sacred thing, a priceless treasure . . .

## PRESS IN INDIA ON POLAND

"*The Theosophist*," August 1942. Poland Number.

In August 1942 the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, Madras, published the Poland Number of "*The Theosophist*."

The Editor Dr. G. S. Arundale has rendered a great service to the cause of Poland by devoting the August Number of *The Theosophist* exclusively to Polish ideas and ideals. The number is full of vitality, of deep, intense thought and feeling. Every article is written with the blood of a heart rent in agony over the terrible sufferings of a tortured nation. The editing of the number was done by a good Polish patriot—Miss Wanda Dynowska. The articles received were very well selected. She gave generously of her time to write for and edit the Poland Number of *The Theosophist*.

In the first place should be mentioned the article entitled "On the Watch Tower" by G. S. Arundale. The author, who loves Poland, pointed out that there is no Quisling in Poland, nor could there ever be one. In Poland there are only heroes and heroines, patriots one and all. Poland is alive even under the unimaginable bestiality of the Germans. No land has ever been as ruthlessly trampled under foot as has been Poland. Poland was and is a warrior nation and Poland does not give up hope even now in the midst of her agony. She suffers as no other nation throughout the world has ever suffered. But the spirit of her people lives. It is unquenchable, and will emerge all the more radiant for its long-drawn-out subjection and will never surrender to the forces of evil.

From other articles should be mentioned the one entitled "The Dharma and Ideals of Poland" by Wanda Sokolowska in which the authoress shows the idealistic tendencies in Polish History; the article entitled "Marshal Pilsudski" by Wanda Dynowska in which the authoress portrays splendidly the character of Marshal Jozef Pilsudski; "Poland Free" by Jerzy Barski in which the author shows what Poland accomplished during her independence in the XXth century. Very interesting also are articles: "Sea and Mountains in the Life of Poland" by Wanda Dynowska and "A Duel" by Jan Brzeski.

In our opinion the Poland Number of the *The Theosophist* should be in the hands of every person who loves Poland or has, at least, sympathy for the Polish cause.

The Editorial Board of the *Polish News* express their sincerest thanks to the Editor Dr. G. S. Arundale and to the Compiler Miss Wanda Dynowska for the splendid work done by them.

## POLISH—CZECHOSLOVAK COLLABORATION

### NEW STEP IN POLISH-CZECH CONFEDERATION

Plans for post-war confederation between Poland and Czechoslovakia were further advanced at a meeting between General Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief, and President Edouard Benes of Czechoslovakia. The official communiqué issued after their meeting stressed that "future relations between our two countries are being planned systematically in mutual frankness and confidence."

A special co-ordination committee has been created to work with the other joint committees now exploring various aspects of the future Polish-Czechoslovak relations.

This is, however, only part of Poland's contribution to post-war planning for reconstruction. In New York, the East Central European Planning Board, that grew out of the International Labour Conference, is busy investigating ways and means of economic co-operation after the war between Poland and Czechoslovakia, and between Greece and Yugoslavia, so as to form a homogeneous economic system entirely independent of Germany.

\* \* \*

On the 16th August a concert of the orchestra under the direction of Mr. S. Petit was arranged in the premises of the Polish Union in India and the Czechoslovak Association in Bombay by the Polish-Czechoslovak Collaboration Committee.

The Polish and Czechoslovak Communities were present.

## POLES IN INDIA

About 220 children and about 20 lady-guardians evacuated from Russia have arrived in India. It is the second batch of children to arrive in India from Russia.

The Polish Children's Camp where all the children will be stationed is in Balachadi, Jamnagar, Navanagar State. The Camp is under the direction of Father F. Pluta, Chaplain of the Polish Forces.

\* \* \*

The Editorial Board of the "*Polish News*" express their sincerest thanks to Miss Ursula Temperli for the beautiful presents for the Polish children in Palchadi, Jamnagar.